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Fig 1: Palermo at night



Fig 2: Palermo: View of the marina

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NEWS IN ANGIOLOGY AND VASCULAR SURGERY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The 28th Mediterranean Congress of Angiology and Vascular Surgery took place in conjunction with the 2d Meeting of the Multinational Chapter of the International Union of Angiology and the 11th Meeting of the Central European Venus Forum.

The venue of the Congress was the Diabetic Centre of the University of Palermo from the 22^d to the 25th of June 2018. President of the Organising Committee was Prof Salvatore Novo.

The beautiful town of Palermo has been selected several times as the venue of vascular and cardiovascular Congresses. (2000, 2005 and 2009, 2014). The city is a patchwork of periods and styles and its historic centre fuses ancient splendour. Arab and Norman treasures are mingling with misery! Palermo however offers a special sensibility and an excellent hospitality, which flows in the air and is absolutely unique.



**Fig 3: “Palazzo del Normanni”
Venue of the Opening Ceremony.**

The **Opening Ceremony** took place in “Sala Gialla” of the Royal Palace at the heart of Palermo on the 22/6/18. Welcome addresses were delivered by the Mayor of Palermo, the Rector of the University of Palermo and other th Officials as well as by the Presidents

.of IUA Prof P. Carpentier, of the CEVF Prof M. Szostek and of MLAVS Prof N. Angelides. The Opening Lecture of the Opening Ceremony was delivered by Prof N. Angelides under the title: “Ancient Medicine, Surgery and Botany in Far, Middle and Near East and the Mediterranean”.



Fig 4: The President of the Congress Prof Novo, and Prof Angelides President of MLAVS.

The **scientific program** was based on a very large list of topics following the pathways and the tradition of the previous Congresses and took place in three parallel rooms at the University of Palermo premises. It was composed of Round Tables, Lectures, Joint Symposia, Oral Presentations, Posters and Workshops. The sequence of evens was as follows:

FRIDAY (23/6/2018)

ROOM A: The **opening Symposium** had the title “From deep venous thrombosis to post-thrombotic syndrome-PART 1” This was a Joint Symposium with the Multinational Chapter of IUA It dealt with “the Pathogenesis of DVT” (P. Poredos), the “diagnostic

Algorithm of DVT” (P. L. Antignani),
“The advantages and des-
advantages of NOAC” (C. Allegra)
and “factors influencing re-
canalisation of DVT and
development of PTS” (L. Jeraj).



Fig 5: One of the Lecture rooms in action

The next **symposium** was an extension of the previous one (**PART 2**) under the same title. The 1st lecture was about the “Venous Sludge index” (C. Latimer) the 2^d about “the principles of accurate diagnosis” (J. Michiels), the 3^d about “the post-thrombotic syndrome and its pri care” (J. Michiels) the 4th about “Possible strategies for therapy in the VTE” (C. Andreozzi) and the 5th about “Compression in Phlebology).



Fig 6: The statues in Palermo are numerous, including horses!



Fig 7: Night-life is intensive in Palermo’s squares and narrow streets

The scientific program continued with The following **plenary lectures**:

- (a) “Quo Vadis vascular surgery?” (M. Szostek)
- (b) “Microcirculation in trophic Changes” (P. Carpentier)
- (c) “The status of Vascular Surgery Mediterranean Countries” (N. Angelides).



Fig 8: C. Allegra, N. Angelides and S. Novo discussing during lunch.

The afternoon **Symposium** was about **Endovascular treatment of thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms**. The 1st lecture was about “Non-invasive diagnosis” (L. Aluigi).

The 2d about “Hybrid approaches for complicated aortic aneurysms” (N. Angeli the 3d “When dissecting aorta should be operated” (M Szostek); tr “Extra-anatomical bypasses for EVAR complications (madam Szostek) th “Complications after endovascular proceec (madam Szostek) the 6th about “Marfan Syndrome” (G. Ruvolo).



Fig 9: Profs Carpentier, Szostek and Novo

A session with Plenary Lectures follow

- (a) Consensus on pelvic congestion syndrome” (P.L. Antignani)
- (b) “prevention of Cardio-embolic risk” (F. Pinto)
- (c) Advances on new oral Anticoagulants” (S. Novo)



Fig 10: The official dinner’s place



Fig 11: Typical “piatza” of Palermo

A Joint Symposium “on peripheral arterial disease” followed:

1st Lecture was on “mechanical thrombectomy” (S. Pataki); 2d one “new concepts on pathophysiology and treatment” (G.H. Schernthaner); 3d one “Variability in vascular care focusing on limb amputations” (E. Kolossvary); 4th lecture “Why treatment of PAD is still non-optional” (J. Pitha); 5th one “rehabilitation in PAD” (L. Mazzolai); and the final one “Observational studies on PAD in Italy” (A. Visona)



Fig 12: Palermo at night

Meeting room B (22/6/18)

Joint Symposium “CLI Complex Management”.

The 1st lecture “how to Identify CLI?” (P. Poredos); 2d one” CLI and cell therapy” (A.I. Carcia Herrera); 3d lecture: “Interventional treatment of

CLI” (A. Frasheri); the 4th lecture “CLI: open or endovascular surgical approach?” (N. Angelides); and the last one “experience with Hybrid vascular graft in CLI” (G. Vettorello).



Fig 13: the blue room of the Rogial Palace where the opening ceremony took place

A non-CME scientific session followed sponsored by Boston Scientific which focus on **new tools and strategies in interventional cardiology**.

The next joint **symposium** was on **Peripheral Arterial Disease**: The 1st lecture was “on Vascular Diagnosis” (Z. Pecsvarady); the 2d one: role and relevance of femoral artery IMT” (J. Pitha); the 3d “ABI in asymptomatic PAD” (P. Poredos); the 4th “Indications for treatment” (PL Antignani); the 5th “Follow-up after treatment” (F. Magnoni) and the last: “Is there any space for CEUS?” (O. Martinelli)

The program’s continuation included another joint **symposium** under the title “**from functional changes in the arterial wall to CLI**”. 1st lecture has the title “can age related changes in the vascular wall be modulated?” (M. Janic). The 2d lecture “Is secondary antiplatelet therapy news about the

cardiovascular prevention in patients with PAD effective?” (A. Blinc); the 3d lecture had the title “Novel approaches to interventional treatment of CLI” (V. Boc); Finally, the 4th lecture had the title “Future directions of integrative vascular medicine” (M. Sabovic).



Fig 14: The Palermo’s Cathedral.

The next theme was a **non-CME lecture** sponsored by Bayer under the title “**Prevention and treatment of VTE**” (S. Siragusa) followed by another **non-CME lecture** sponsored by Daiichi-Sankyo under the title “**Prevention of VTE in Oncology**” (C. Amado).



Fig 15: The medieval Palermo

The next joint **Symposium** was on **Coronary Heart Disease**. This symposium included the following lectures: 1st one: “Role of coronary CT in the diagnosis of coronary atherosclerosis” (P. Toia). 2d lecture “The role of cardiac MR in the stratification of CAD” (P. Toia); 3d lecture “Dual

ESC Guidelines” (G. De Luca); The last 4th lecture had the title “Treatment of chronic ischaemic heart disease: what is new?” (G. Calcaterra).



Fig 16: The Medieval Palermo

The next joint **symposium** had the title: “**Preclinical carotid atherosclerosis**”. It included the following lectures: 1st one was on “carotid biomarkers” (A. Visona). The 2^d lecture was on “IMT: from clinical trials to the real life” (M. Amitrano). The 3^d one “Ultrasound measurements of carotid damage” (G. Lessiani). Finally the 4th, deals with the “relationship between endothelial dysfunction, erectile dysfunction and Testosterone levels” (R. Iacona).



Fig 17: The Acropolis of Palermo

SATURDAY 23/6/2018
Room A

The 1st lecture had the title “Heart

Failure with preserved but reduced ejection fraction: the misleading definition of the new guidelines” (F. Fedele).



Fig 18: The old Palermo

A non-CME **symposium** followed supported by Novartis under the title “**Advances on the treatment of heart Failure**”. Four lectures were included. The 1st one was about epidemiology (M. G. Abrignani). The 2^d lecture about “Pathophysiology and the role of natriuretic peptides” (G. Carmina). The 3^d, about “left ventricular dysfunction and anticancer drugs” (G. Novo) and the 4th about “New treatment of heart failure with Neprilysin” (A. Tuttolomondo).



Fig 19: The atrium of hotel Basra



Fig 20: The Palermo's opera-house, where we enjoyed the opera "cavalleria rusticana" by P. Mascagni

The scientific program continued with another **mini-symposium** under the title "Lymphatic diseases". The 1st lecture dealt with "the primary and secondary Lymphoedema: from genetics to the clinic" (A Fiorentino); The 2^d lecture dealt with "Secondary peripheral lymphoedema: New concepts of prevention, staging-guided surgical treatment and long-term clinical outcomes" (C. C. Campisi)



Fig 21: the magnificent Palermo

Three **plenary lectures** followed (a) "Asymptomatic carotid plaque: beyond the charts of risk" (S. Novo) (b) History of arterial hypertension" (R. Zimlichman) (c) The Balas Lecture: "the Scientist, Surgeon, Teacher and Philosopher" (E. Hussein).



Fig 22: The medieval Palermo



Fig 23: The open markets in Palermo are popular and many



Fig 24: Churches and statues in Palermo.



Fig 25: The roof of the magnificent church in the Royal Palace.

Two **joint Symposia** and a **non-CME lecture** followed (a) Symposium on acute coronary syndrome (b) Symposium on interventional Cardiology and (c) Lecture supported by Sanofi Aventis “New perspectives in the secondary prevention of cardiovascular events after the Odyssey Outcome” (S. Novo).

ROOM B 23/6/2018

The scientific program included: (a) **Lecture** on “diabetes and cardiovascular events” (F. Cosentino) (b) **Symposium** on cardiovascular Risks (c) **Lecture** on “the role of endomyo-cardial biopsy in heart failure” (A. Frustaci) (d) **Symposium** on advances in Vascular Medicine (e) **Lecture** on the “recent history of Phlebology from the perspective of a VIP Past President” (A. Scuderi) (f) **Symposium** on Varicose Veins.

ROOM C 23/6/18

The scientific program included: (a) Joint **Symposium** about renal artery (b) Joint **Symposium** about Foam



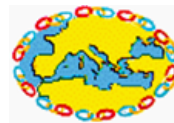
Fig 6: A group of presenters and discussers of the joint symposium organised with MLAVS

Sclerotherapy: State of the Art (c) **Joint Symposium** on Status of Vascular Medicine and Surgery in the Mediterranean Region (d) **Symposium** on Aortic Aneurysms

SUNDAY 20/6/18 ROOM A

The scientific program included: (a) **Joint Symposium** on Endovascular treatment of A-I Disease (b) **Lecture:** “Invasive procedures on Varicose Veins” (C. Allegra) (c) **Lecture:** “New frontiers in Familial Hypercholesterolemia” (M. Averna) (d) **Joint Symposium** on European awareness on Vascular Diseases

ROOMS B and C: Free Communications and Posters



Future Congresses

29th MLAVS CONGRESS
7-9 November 2019
Zagreb, Croatia
President I. Cvejtko

30th MLAVS CONGRESS
In conjunction with the World Congress of IUA, 2020
Rome, Italy
President: P. L. Antignani

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